



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

3 OCT 1960

Honorable Robert H. Thayer
Special Assistant to the Secretary for the
Coordination of International Educational
and Cultural Relations
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Bob,

I agree wholeheartedly with the thoughts expressed in your
very fine letter which you are sending to Chiefs of Mission on
the subject of spotting future leaders around the world.

I do believe that my people are in an unique position,
especially in the less-developed areas, to support your efforts
in this important field. You may rest assured that we fully
understand the paramount need to protect the integrity of the
IES program as a legitimate U. S. effort to promote mutual
understanding. We will send a dispatch to our stations on this
matter after we have been advised that your letter has gone
out.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

(Executive Director, CIA)

State

cc: DDCI

SAC [redacted] (30 Sept'60)

State Department review completed

Distribution:

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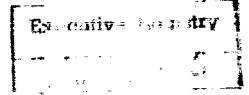
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

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VIA: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Agency Cooperation in the International
Educational Exchange Service (IES)
Program

1. This memorandum is for your information.
2. Forwarded herewith is a letter from Robert Thayer of State. Also attached is a very fine letter from Mr. Thayer to the Ambassadors which he drafted after conversations with us in which we had expressed our thought that the Agency could assist in an important way in the job of spotting future leaders in less-developed areas. We are sending out a companion dispatch to all stations.

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2 Attachments

cc: DDCI

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cc: Secy, S

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

September 14, 1960

Dear Allen:

I have been talking to your people about their helping in the important job of spotting future Leaders around the world and thought you would be interested in seeing a copy of a proposed letter I am sending to Chiefs of Mission on this subject. This letter is being cleared at the working level in your office at the present time.

Sincerely yours,



Robert H. Thayer

Attachment:
Draft letter.

The Honorable
Allen W. Dulles, Director,
Central Intelligence Agency.

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This document consists of 2 pages.
No. 2 of 2 copies, Series A.
Draft 2.

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

The Department has become more and more impressed with the importance of the Leader Programs under which existing or potential leaders of a foreign country receive grants to visit the United States and obtain a first-hand, accurate picture of the life and institutions of the American people. The posts in every country have reported enthusiastically of the beneficial results of such grants and have been urging the Department to increase them.

In the under-developed countries with their ever-changing political scenes, it is particularly important for us to find as grantees young people who show the potentialities of becoming future leaders. If these individuals can be accurately chosen early in life at an impressionable age and brought over for a carefully prepared program of travel and observation, if not actual study, within the United States, lasting impressions can be made which may produce valuable dividends in the future. It is hoped that all members of the country team will cooperate in this effort, but the Department is aware of the difficulties experienced by the staff of any particular post in finding both the opportunity, as well as the time and effort, in discovering and selecting such grantees. The Department has been carrying on conversations with appropriate individuals concerning a special effort in this direction which might be made by

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in the field whose work may give them greater opportunities

for

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for obtaining information of potential leaders.

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[redacted] in each post are going to be advised by their home office that they should cooperate with the Chief of Mission in whatever way that he may deem appropriate under the circumstances in making a careful survey to discover and identify for [redacted] potential leader grantees. I hope that you will believe that this is a worthwhile project and discuss with your [redacted] how it should be handled at your particular post. The Public Affairs Officer will, of course, be particularly concerned with this activity.

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It has been agreed here that, due to the sensitivity of any [redacted] and the exchange program, a knowledge of these activities should be as restricted as possible. It is, of course, unnecessary for me to emphasize that there is no intention to include in this identification process any recruitment of agents for intelligence purposes.

Your comments on this suggestion would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Robert H. Thayer

CU:RHThayer:jy 9/14/60